



M E D I A R E L E A S E

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DECEMBER 15, 2006

CONTACT:
MICHELLE MOWERY JOHNSON
(615) 313-4707 (OFFICE)

TENNESSEE REHABILITATION CENTER GRADUATES OVERCOME BARRIERS TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS

MORE THAN 70 STUDENTS GRADUATE TO A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE

SMYRNA, Tenn.— Dozens of young men and women with significant disabilities donned cap and gown today and proudly walked or rolled their wheelchairs across the stage at the Tennessee Rehabilitation Center (TRC) in Smyrna. The students come from every corner of the state, but all are filled with the same determination and drive to enter or re-enter the workforce and better their lives. Their studies and hard work in programs like Hospitality and Food Service, Business Education Training, Building Maintenance and Warehouse Training have enabled them to do just that. With certificate in hand, these new graduates are now moving on to the next stage in their lives.

“The Department of Human Services is dedicated to helping our citizens with disabilities overcome their individual barriers and gain successful employment in communities across Tennessee and beyond,” said Commissioner Gina Lodge, who attended today’s graduation. “The services offered at TRC assist individuals in achieving their highest level of functioning so they can live and work as independently as possible.”

Students who attend the TRC have a wide variety of disabilities, from traumatic brain injuries to blindness or mental retardation. Many must undergo physical or occupational therapy or take part in the transitional living skills program to better assist them as they leave the TRC and move into more independent lives.

The Tennessee Rehabilitation Center is a state-operated comprehensive rehabilitation facility. It is one of only nine such centers in the nation. Services are provided on campus, and the majority of clients live on site while receiving services. The length of programs offered at TRC vary, depending upon the individual client’s interest, abilities and needs.

TRC is part of the Division of Rehabilitation Services within the Tennessee Department of Human Services. TRC serves more than 1,500 Tennesseans with disabilities each year. Since opening its doors in 1977, TRC has served more than 28,000 individuals.

For more information about TRC, the Division of Rehabilitation Services and the Tennessee Department of Human Services, visit <http://www.state.tn.us/humanserv/rehabilitation.htm>

For a county-by-county breakdown of graduates, please see the following page:

CITIZENS PLAZA, 15TH FLOOR
400 DEADERICK STREET
NASHVILLE, TN 37248
615.313.4700

First Name	Last Name	City
Dennis	Adams	Lebanon
Chad	Bailey	Brentwood
Jeremiah	Baker	Chattanooga
Randy	Ball	Sevierville
Donta	Bates	Jackson
Charles	Beall	Cordova
Keith	Beard	Franklin
William	Black	Friendship
Lovella	Boggs	Franklin
Clark	Boyce	Waverly
Jesse	Case	Chuckey
Freddie	Cathey	Williamsport
Walter	Chambers	Springfield
Steven	Clark	Johnson City
Christopher	Collier	Memphis
Amanda	Craig	Munford
Davin	Crockett	Lenoir City
John	Cunningham	McMinnville
Frank	Daniel	Smyrna
Crystal	Delridge	Decherd
Katherine	Diana	Cordova
Edward	Driver	Nashville
Shaun	Funderburk	Hendersonville
Sheena	Garrett	Fairfield Glade
Joshua "Trevor"	Hamby	Columbia
Timothy (TJ)	Hansard	Harriman
Anthony	Hay	Chattanooga
Alicen	Healy	Fayetteville
Donell	Holimon	Hixson
Timothy	Holman	Tullahoma
Tara	Holsclaw	Elizabethton
Edward	Holt	Nashville
Sharon	Huey	Memphis
Kenneth	Jones	Jackson
Julie	Koch	Hixson
Marcus	Kouth	Crossville
Rebecca	Lamar	Culleoka
Raven	Lamb	Crossville
Crystal	Logsdon	Clarksville
Beverly	Marbrey	Newbern
Sheena	McDaniel	Chattanooga
Timothy	Menzies	Franklin
Charles	Middleton	Antioch
Keshia	Moulder	Shelbyville
John	Muriel	Pegram
Jeremy	Neal	Memphis
Lorrie	Neal	Memphis
Danny	Nunes	Crossville

First Name	Last Name	City
Heidi	Reed	Murfreesboro
Susan	Reed	Woodbury
Paul	Robinson	Murfreesboro
Melissa	Rogers	Knoxville
Tiffany	Rose	Smyrna
William	Ryan	Tullahoma
Christopher	Saine	Johnson City
Myriah	Schwartz	Brownsville
Quentin	Spinks	Milan
Matthew	Stone	Knoxville
Mark	Stowers	Nashville
Brandon	Strickland	Apison
Jeremy	Stubblefield	Burns
Cheryl	Tooley	Murfreesboro
Brian	VanBuren	Memphis
Naomi	Ward	Columbia
Derrick	White	Pulaski
LaTasha	White	Nashville
Vantrese	Whitney	Nashville
Nicholas "Nick"	Wieland	Germantown
Lee	Young	Nashville
Jay	Zakary	Columbia